

**H- 2600 THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY HEALTH CONNECTION PROGRAM (GNOCHC)****H-2610 GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Greater New Orleans Community Health Connection (GNOCHC) Program is a Section 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver to preserve primary and behavioral health care access in the Greater New Orleans area after Hurricane Katrina. The GNOCHC waiver replaced the original funding through the Primary Care Access Stabilization Grant (PCASG) and was effective October 1, 2010 pursuant to R. S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

To qualify for the GNOCHC, an individual must:

- Be at least 19 but not yet 65 years of age;
- Be a resident of the Greater New Orleans area comprised of Orleans, St. Bernard, Jefferson and Plaquemines parishes. Refer to: [Cities located in the GNOCHC area](#);
- Have family income less than or equal to 105 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (100 percent FPL, plus 5 percent disregard). Refer to: [Z-200 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines](#);
- Be uninsured;

**Note:**

The same creditable and good cause exceptions that apply to LaCHIP Affordable Plan apply to GNOCHC. Refer to [I-2200 Creditable Health Insurance](#);

- Be a U.S. citizen or meet citizenship requirements as established by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2008 (DRA) and the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA). Refer to [Electronic SSA Citizenship Verification Process](#);
- Not be pregnant; and
- Not be otherwise eligible for Medicaid, LaCHIP or Medicare, with the exception of eligibles/enrollees in the Take Charge Plus Program or the Tuberculosis (TB) Infected Program.

The GNOCHC benefit package is limited to those services provided by participating clinics and includes:

- Behavioral health services (mental health and substance use);
- Care coordination;
- Immunizations and influenza vaccines;
- Laboratory and radiology;
- Primary health care;
- Preventive health care; and
- Specialty care.

Non-covered Services include:

- Cosmetic procedures;
- Dentistry;
- Fertility treatments;
- Inpatient and outpatient hospital services;
- Pain management treatments;
- Pharmacy;
- Residential mental health and substance use services; or
- Routine eye exams and eyeglasses.

## **H-2620 ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION PROCESS**

Determine eligibility by applying the following criteria. The elements have been listed in the most logical order, but work on all steps simultaneously.

**H-2620.1 DETERMINE ASSISTANCE UNIT**

The household composition is based on MAGI rules. Refer to [I-1550 MAGI Determinations](#).

**H-2620.2 ESTABLISH CATEGORICAL REQUIREMENT**

Verify that the applicant/enrollee:

- Is at least 19 but not yet 65 years of age,
- Not eligible for Medicaid (full benefit), LaCHIP or Medicare,

**Note:**

Applicants/ enrollees certified in the limited benefit programs of Take Charge Plus and TB may be entitled to dual eligibility in GNOCHC if they meet all eligibility factors.

**H-2620.3 ESTABLISH NONFINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY**

Verify eligibility for the applicant/enrollee with regard to the following factors:

- [Assignment of Third Party Rights](#) [I-200](#)
- [Citizenship/Alien Status](#) [I-300](#)
- [Enumeration](#) [I-600](#)
- [Residence](#) [I-1900](#)
- [Creditable Health insurance](#) [I-2200](#)

Existing sanctions must be upheld in determining GNOCHC eligibility. The applicant must take steps to clear existing sanctions or request a Good Cause Exemption. \*\*

**H-2620.4 ESTABLISH NEED**

Household composition and countable income for GNOCHC is based on MAGI. Refer to [I-1550 MAGI Determinations](#).

Compare MAGI-based income to the GNOCHC Federal Poverty Level income standard. Refer to [Z-200 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines](#).

#### **H-2620.5 ELIGIBILITY DECISION**

Evaluate all eligibility requirements and verification received to make the eligibility decision.

#### **H-2620.6 CERTIFICATION PERIOD**

A GNOCHC certification shall begin no earlier than the month that the application is received. Enrollees are eligible for continuous eligibility for twelve (12) months from the point of the latest certification or renewal, unless the enrollee:

- Voluntarily withdraws from the program;
- No longer resides in a parish within the Greater New Orleans area;
- Becomes incarcerated or becomes an inpatient in an institution for mental disorders;
- Becomes eligible for a full-benefit Medicaid program;
- Obtains creditable health insurance and/or Medicare;
- Turns 65 years old; or
- Dies.

GNOCHC enrollees are not eligible for retroactive coverage. However, they may be found eligible for a full Medicaid program during a retroactive period, and could overlap the GNOCHC certification.

#### **H-2620.7 RESERVATION LIST**

The state may employ a “first come-first served” reservation list as a method of managing enrollment for the GNOCHC program.

**H-2620.8 NOTICE OF DECISION**

Send the appropriate notice of decision to the applicant/enrollee.